

**Claims****What is claimed is:**

1. A method for providing an online collections services marketplace to assist Clients in identifying one or more Providers for collecting associated receivables, comprising the steps of:

subscribing with an online collections services system wherein a Client inputs profile data;

providing information related to receivables for collection through the online collections services system;

storing in a database Client profile data and information related to receivables;

and

selecting one or more Providers based on one or more placement options.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the placement option comprises a step of participating in a bidding process where the Client submits a set of receivables for auction and specifies limitations regarding the bidding process.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the placement option comprises a step of invoking an optimization process where a set of Providers able to provide an optimal return is displayed to the Client for selection.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the placement option comprises a step of searching for one or more Providers based on Client defined characteristics wherein the Client initiates contact with the one or more Providers.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising a step of utilizing Provider data in selecting one or more Providers wherein Provider data comprises one or more of Provider type, Provider qualification data, feedback data and efficiency rating data.
- 5 6. The method of claim 1 further comprising a step of dynamically rating the one or more selected Providers with respect to Provider performance in servicing receivables with one or more defined characteristics.
7. A method for providing an online collections services marketplace to enable Providers to offer collection services to one or more Clients, comprising the steps of:
- 10       subscribing with an online collections services system wherein a Provider inputs Provider data;
- viewing one or more receivable ratings associated with one or more Clients;
- providing one or more exclusion factors to be applied to a Client selection process; and
- 15       making a determination in response to a Client selection.
8. The method of claim 7 further comprising a step of participating in a bidding process where the Provider submits one or more bids for one or more sets of receivables for auction.
9. The method of claim 7 further comprising a step of viewing current bids of other
- 20       participating bidders without revealing the identity of the other participating bidders.

10. The method of claim 7 further comprising a step of dynamically rating one or more Clients.
11. A system for providing an online collections services marketplace to assist Clients in identifying one or more Providers for collecting associated receivables, comprising:
  - 5 a subscription module for subscribing with an online collections services system wherein a Client inputs profile data;
  - an input module for providing information related to receivables for collection through the online collections services system;
  - a database storing Client profile data and information related to receivables; and
  - 10 a selection module for selecting one or more Providers based on one or more placement options.
12. The system of claim 11 wherein the placement option comprises a bidding module for participating in a bidding process where the Client submits a set of receivables for auction and specifies limitations regarding the bidding process.
- 15 13. The system of claim 11 wherein the placement option comprises an optimization module for invoking an optimization process where a set of Providers able to provide an optimal return is displayed to the Client for selection.
14. The system of claim 11 wherein the placement option comprises a search module for searching for one or more Providers based on Client defined characteristics
- 20 wherein the Client initiates contact with the one or more Providers.

15. The system of claim 11 further comprising a utilization module for utilizing  
Provider data in selecting one or more Providers wherein Provider data comprises  
one or more of Provider type, Provider qualification data, feedback data and  
efficiency rating data.
- 5 16. The system of claim 11 further comprising a feedback module for dynamically  
rating the one or more selected Providers with respect to Provider performance in  
servicing receivables with one or more defined characteristics.
17. A system for providing an online collections services marketplace to enable  
Providers to offer collection services to one or more Clients, comprising:
- 10 a subscription module for subscribing with an online collections services system  
wherein a Provider inputs Provider data;
- a ratings module for viewing one or more receivable ratings associated with one  
or more Clients;
- an exclusion module for providing one or more exclusion factors to be applied to  
15 a Client selection process; and
- a determination module for making a determination in response to a Client  
selection.
18. The system of claim 17 further comprising a bidding module for participating in a  
bidding process where the Provider submits one or more bids for one or more sets  
20 of receivables for auction.

19. The system of claim 17 further comprising a display for viewing current bids of other participating bidders without revealing the identity of the other participating bidders.
20. The system of claim 17 further comprising a feedback module for dynamically rating one or more Clients.

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